

be changing, and I was talking about when you're involved with making decisions of historic nature, you won't be around to see the effects of your decisions. And I said that when I work the ropelines, a lot of people come and say, "Mr. President, I'm praying for you"—a lot. As a matter of fact, it seems like a lot more now than when I was working ropelines in 1994. And I asked them—I was asking their opinion about whether or not there was a Third Awakening, I called it.

I'd just read a book on Abraham Lincoln, and his Presidency was right around the time of what they called the Second Awakening, and I was curious to know whether or not these smart people felt like there was any historical parallels. I also said that I had run for office the first time to change a culture—Herman and Hutch remember me saying, you know, the culture that said, "If it feels good, do it, and if you've got a problem, blame somebody else"—to helping to work change a culture in which each of us are responsible for the decisions we make in life. In other words, ushering in a responsibility era. And I reminded people that responsibility means, if you're a father, love your child; or if you're corporate America, be honest with the taxpayers; if you're a citizen of this country, love your neighbor.

And so I was wondering out loud with them. It seems like to me that something is happening in the religious life of America. But I'm not a very good focus group either. I'm encapsulated here. I'm able to see a lot of people, and from my perspective, people are coming to say, "I'm praying for you." And it's an uplifting part of being the President; it inspires me. And I'm grateful that a fellow citizen would say a prayer for me and Laura.

Anyway, thank you all very much.

NOTE: The President's news conference began at 11:15 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, senior Al Qaida leader responsible for planning the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, who was captured in Pakistan on March 1, 2003; Ramzi bin al-Shibh, an Al Qaida operative suspected of helping to plan the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, who was captured in Karachi, Pakistan, on September 11, 2002; Abu Zubaydah, a leader of the Al Qaida terrorist organization, who was captured in

Faisalabad, Pakistan, on March 28, 2002; U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Zalmay Khalilzad; Gen. George W. Casey, Jr., USA, commanding general, Multi-National Force—Iraq; Gen. John P. Abizaid, USA, combatant commander, U.S. Central Command; Usama bin Laden, leader of the Al Qaida terrorist organization; and President Pervez Musharraf of Pakistan. The President also referred to H.R. 6054, the "Military Commissions Act of 2006," and S. 2455 and S. 3874, both concerning the terrorist surveillance program. A reporter referred to Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki of Iraq.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

September 9

In the morning, at Camp David, MD, the President had an intelligence briefing.

September 10

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush traveled to New York City, where, at the site of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, they participated in a wreath-laying ceremony commemorating the fifth anniversary of the attacks. Later, at St. Paul's Chapel, they participated in a service of prayer and remembrance.

Also in the afternoon, the President toured the Tribute WTC Visitor Center commemorating the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

September 11

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, at Fort Pitt Firehouse, the President and Mrs. Bush had breakfast with New York City first-responders. Then, at 8:46 a.m., they participated in a moment of silence followed by a ceremony to commemorate the anniversary of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Later in the morning, the President and Mrs. Bush traveled to Shanksville, PA,

where, at the site of the crash of United Flight 93, they participated in a wreath-laying ceremony for victims of the September 11, 2001, plane crash.

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush traveled to Arlington, VA, where, at the Pentagon, they participated in a wreath-laying ceremony to commemorate the anniversary of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. They then returned to Washington, DC.

September 12

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he met with Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings. He then met with Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld.

Later in the morning, the President participated in an interview with print journalists.

During the day, the President dropped by a meeting between National Security Adviser Stephen J. Hadley and Minister of the Interior and Regional Development Nicolas Sarkozy of France.

The White House announced that the President will welcome President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan to the White House on September 29.

The White House announced that the President will welcome Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan of Turkey to the White House on October 2.

The President announced his intention to nominate Frank Baxter to be Ambassador to Uruguay.

The President announced his intention to appoint Joseph B. Gildenhorn and Susan Hutchison as members of the Board of Trustees of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

September 13

In the morning, the President had breakfast with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. Later, he had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, at the historic Evermay house, the President attended a Republican National Committee reception.

During the day, the President dropped by a meeting between Vice President Dick Cheney and Prime Minister Jaroslaw Kaczynski of Poland and a meeting between National

Security Adviser Stephen J. Hadley and Minister of Foreign Affairs Tzipi Livni of Israel.

September 14

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, at the U.S. Capitol, the President made remarks to the House Republican Conference.

In the afternoon, the President had a working lunch with President Roh Moo-hyun of South Korea. Later, he met with the Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents.

In the evening, in the State Dining Room, the President and Mrs. Bush hosted a social dinner in honor of the Thelonius Monk Institute of Jazz followed by entertainment in the East Room.

The White House announced that the President will travel to New York City to participate in the 61st United Nations General Assembly on September 18–20.

The White House announced that the President will welcome President Pervez Musharraf of Pakistan to the White House on September 22.

The White House announced that the President will welcome President Hamid Karzai of Afghanistan to the White House on September 26.

The President announced his intention to nominate Michele Davis to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury (Public Affairs).

The President announced his intention to nominate Caroline C. Hunter to be Commissioner of the Election Assistance Commission.

The President announced his intention to nominate David Palmer to be a Commissioner of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

The President announced his intention to nominate Michael J. Astrue to be Commissioner of Social Security.

The President announced his intention to nominate Ned L. Siegel, Norman B. Coleman, and Barbara Boxer to be U.S. Representatives to the 61st Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The President announced his intention to nominate Barbara McConnell Barrett and Cecil E. Floyd to be Alternate U.S. Representatives to the 61st Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The President announced his intention to appoint Frank D. Stella as a member of the Board of Governors of the United Service Organizations, Inc.

The President announced his intention to appoint Duane R. Roberts, Jean Kennedy Smith, and Wilma E. Bernstein as members of the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

The President announced that he has named Jeremy Katz and Myriah Jordan as Special Assistants to the President for Policy.

September 15

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted September 13

Frank Baxter,
of California, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Oriental Republic of Uruguay.

Thomas M. Hardiman,
of Pennsylvania, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, vice Richard L. Nygaard, retired.

Submitted September 15

Michael J. Astrue,
of Massachusetts, to be Commissioner of Social Security for a term expiring January 19, 2013, vice Jo Anne Barnhart.

Caroline C. Hunter,
of Florida, to be a member of the Election Assistance Commission for a term expiring December 12, 2009, vice Paul S. DeGregorio, term expired.

David Palmer,
of Maryland, to be a member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term expiring July 1, 2011, vice Cari M. Dominguez, term expired.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released September 10

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Tony Snow

Released September 11

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Tony Snow

Fact sheet: The Fifth Anniversary of September 11, 2001

Excerpts of the President's address to the Nation on the war on terror

Advance text of the President's address to the Nation on the war on terror

Released September 12

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Tony Snow

Statement by the Press Secretary: Visit of President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan

Statement by the Press Secretary: Visit by Prime Minister Erdogan of Turkey to Washington

Released September 13

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Tony Snow

Released September 14

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Tony Snow